

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows.

Please cancel claims 6-33.

Claim 1 (Cancelled).

2. (Previously presented) A substantially purified nucleic acid molecule consisting of the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID NO:1.

3. (Previously presented) A nucleic acid consisting of a nucleotide sequence that encodes the functionally active BAG family protein of SEQ ID NO:2.

4. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 3, wherein said nucleotide sequence consists of SEQ ID NO:1.

5. (Currently amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A nucleic acid ~~of claim 3, wherein said nucleic acid~~ consisting of a nucleotide sequence that is fully complementary to ~~[[the]]~~ a nucleotide sequence ~~that encodes~~ encoding the functionally active BAG family protein of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claims 6-34 (Cancelled).